

COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER UNDER THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983

Name Johnson Garrison S
 (Last) (First) (Initial)

Prisoner Number D 59672

Institutional Address California Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 1906 Tehachapi, CA 93581

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

SBA

GARRISON S. JOHNSON
 (Enter the full name of plaintiff in this action.)

CV 07**5578**

vs.

Case No. _____
 (To be provided by the Clerk of Court)

G. ZAVALA, et al.,

**COMPLAINT UNDER THE
 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT,
 Title 42 U.S.C § 1983**

(PR)

(Enter the full name of the defendant(s) in this action)

E-filing

[All questions on this complaint form must be answered in order for your action to proceed..]

I. Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies.

[Note: You must exhaust your administrative remedies before your claim can go forward. The court will dismiss any unexhausted claims.]

A. Place of present confinement Tehachapi, California

B. Is there a grievance procedure in this institution?

YES ☒ NO ()

C. Did you present the facts in your complaint for review through the grievance procedure?

YES ☒ NO ()

D. If your answer is YES, list the appeal number and the date and result of the appeal at each level of review. If you did not pursue a certain level of appeal, explain why.

1. Informal appeal Log# SVSP-C-03-03688

Denied 10-21-2003

2. First formal level Supra Denied 11-21-2003

3. Second formal level Supra Denied 1-20-2004

4. Third formal level Supra Denied June 16, 2004

E. Is the last level to which you appealed the highest level of appeal available to you?

YES (☒) NO ()

F. If you did not present your claim for review through the grievance procedure, explain why.

II. Parties.

A. Write your name and your present address. Do the same for additional plaintiffs, if any.

See Attached Page 5

B. Write the full name of each defendant, his or her official position, and his or her place of employment.

See Attached Pages 5-6.

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5 **III. Statement of Claim.**

6 State here as briefly as possible the facts of your case. Be sure to describe how each
7 defendant is involved and to include dates, when possible. Do not give any legal arguments or
8 cite any cases or statutes. If you have more than one claim, each claim should be set forth in a
9 separate numbered paragraph.

10 *See Attached Pages 7-11.*
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23 **IV. Relief.**

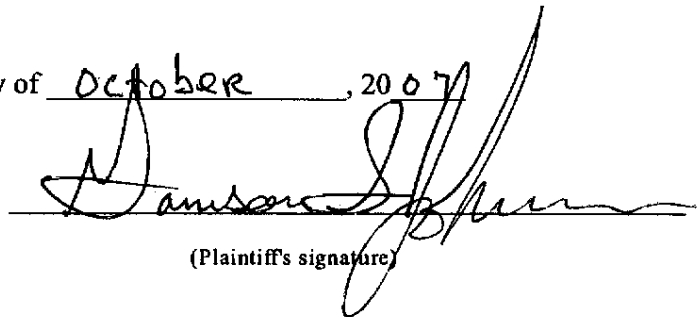
24 Your complaint cannot go forward unless you request specific relief. State briefly exactly
25 what you want the court to do for you. Make no legal arguments; cite no cases or statutes.

26 *See Attached Pages 11-13.*
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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this 23, day of October, 2007



(Plaintiff's signature)

PARTIES

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2 1. Plaintiff Garrison S. Johnson, is a prisoner in the custody
3 of the California Department Of Corrections and Rehabilitation,
4 Inmate # D59672, and at all relevent times mention herin was a
5 resident at the Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP) P. O. Box 1050
6 Soledad, CA 93960.

7 2. Defendant G. Zavala, is a Correctional Saptain at the Salinas
8 Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and is sued
9 in his individual capacity.

10 3. Defendant A. Hedgpeth, is a Correctional Captain at the
11 Salinas Valley State Prison P.O. BOX 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and
12 is sued in his individual capacity.

13 4. Defendant M. Williams, is a Psychologist at the Salinas Valley
14 State Prison P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and is suedd in her
15 individual capacity.

16 5. Defendant D. Wikoff, is a Correctional Sergeant at the Salinas
17 Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and is sued
18 in his individual capacity.

19 6. Defendant Anthony A. La Marque, was the Warden at the Salinas
20 Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad CA 93960, and is sued
21 in his individual capacity.

22 7. Defendant N. Grannis, Cheif Inmate Appeal Branch at the De-
23 partment Of Corrections, P.O. Box 942885 Sacramento, CA 94283-0001,
24 and is sued in her individual capacity.

25 8. Defendant L. E. Scribner, was Acting Chief Deputy Warden at
26 the Salinas Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960,
27 and is sued in his individual capacity.

1 9. Defendant K. Traynham, Correctional Sergeant at the Salinas
2 Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and is sued
3 in ~~her~~ individual capacity.

4 10. Defendant F. Winn, Correctional Counselor II, at the Salinas
5 Valley State Prison, P.O. Box 1050 Soledad, CA 93960, and is sued
6 in his individual capacity.

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FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

11. On April 7, 2003, plaintiff filed a civil suit with the Monterey County Superior Court, Case No. M64367, against Defendant Williams alleging Professional Negligence, Malpractice and Deliberate Indifference to plaintiff's serious medical needs.

12. It is alleged that on or about September 10, 2003 Defendant Williams retaliated against plaintiff for filing the lawsuit against her by persuading Defendant Zavala to transfer plaintiff to a higher level security prison facility, claiming that plaintiff can not receive appropriate mental health treatment at the same facility where Defendant Williams is assigned at due to the lawsuit he filed against her.

13. It is alleged that plaintiff on September 10, 2003 was transferred from SVSP-Facility B to SVSP-Facility C per agreement between Defendant Zavala and Defendant Hedgpeth that they were transferring plaintiff due to a lawsuit plaintiff filed against Defendant Williams.

14. It is alleged that Defendant Zavala deprived plaintiff of procedural due process when he failed to give written notice prior to plaintiff's involuntary transfer.

15. Plaintiff allege that Defendant Zavala deprived him of procedural due process when he failed to allow plaintiff to attend the classification hearing regarding involuntary transfer to a higher security level prison facility and/or failed to hold a classification hearing as required by law.

16. It is alleged that the Defendants retaliation against plaintiff for exercising is constitutional rights to file a law-

1 suit and the retaliatory action did not advance legitimate penolog-
2 ical goals, such as preserving institutional order and discipline.

3 17. It is alleged that the defendants actions were arbitrary
4 and capricious...Defendants caused plaintiff harm when they trans-
5 ferred him to a higher security level facility for exercising his
6 First Amendment right to file a lawsuit.

7 18. It is alleged that the (SVSP) Facility B, is a 270 design-
8 ed prison facility, and the (SVSP) Facility C, is a 180 designed
9 prison facility. In the California Prison System the 180 prison
10 facilities are of higher security level than that of the 270
11 prison facilities.

12 19. It is alleged that the 180 facilities are designed for more
13 dangerous inmates who have committed violent acts while in prison,
14 causing them to be sent to a higher security level prison facility.

15 20. It is alleged that restrictions are imposed on the 180-
16 inmates that are not imposed on the 270 inmates. (1) 270 inmates
17 prison facilities allow inmates access to the recreation yard 5-
18 times a week as oppose to the 180-facilities which only allow
19 access to the recreation yard two to three times a week. (2) The
20 270 facilities also allow dayroom activities while the 180 facili-
21 ties dose not. Therefore, plaintiff is confined to his cell more
22 so then when he was at the 270 facility. (3) The 180 facilities
23 only allow filter ink-pens without the casing, making plaintiff's
24 legal preparation difficult.

25 21. It is alleged that on or about 10/12/03, 11/21/03 and 1/20/
26 04 Defendants Winn and Traynham deprived plaintiff of produral
27 due process when they approved Defendants Zavala and Hedgpath's

1 transferring of plaintiff to the 180 facility without providing
2 written notice prior to the transfer, and failure to hold a class-
3 ification hearing and/or allow plaintiff to appear before a class-
4 ification committee regarding transfer.

5 22. It is alleged that on 9/11/03 plaintiff filed an Inmate
6 Grievance Appeal addressed to Defendant Lamarque as Supervising
7 Prison Official, informing him that That Defendant Zavala and
8 Defendant Hedgpeth transferred him from the the B Facility to the
9 C Facility for reprisal due to a lawsuit plaintiff had filed against
10 Defendant Williams. Plaintiff requested that Defendant Lamarque have
11 him returned back to the B Facility.

12 23. It is alleged that plaintiff's Grievance Appeal put Defendant
13 Lamarque on notice of the violation of plaintiff's rights and his
14 failure not to do anything to fix the situation, approved Defen-
15 dants Zavala and Hedgpeth's transfer of plaintiff without prior
16 written notice, hold a classification hearing and/or allow plaintiff
17 to appear at the hearing regarding the transfer deprived
18 plaintiff of his procedural due process rights.

19 24. It is alleged that on 1/20/04 Defendant Scribner as Super-
20 vising Official responded to plaintiff's Grievance Appeal at the
21 Second Level Review which he determined not to return plaintiff
22 back to the B Facility because of the lawsuit he filed against De-
23 fendant Williams.

24 25. It is alleged that plaintiff's Grievance Appeal put Defen-
25 dant Scribner on notice of the violation of plaintiff's rights and
26 his failure not to do anything to fix the situation, approved De-
27 fendants Zavala and Hedgpeth's transfer of plaintiff without prior

1 written notice, hold a classification hearing and/or allow plaintiff
2 to appear at the hearing regarding the transfer deprived plaintiff
3 of his due process rights.

4 26. It is alleged that on 10/12/03 Defendant Wikoff responded
5 to plaintiff's Grievance Appeal at the Informal Level Review and
6 determined that it would be inappropriate and unfair to defendant
7 Williams to transfer plaintiff back to the B Facility because of
8 the lawsuit plaintiff filed against her. Defendant Wikoff also
9 stated since plaintiff also filed a lawsuit against Defendant
10 Zavala, it would be equally inappropriate to transfer him back to B
11 Facility.

12 27. It is alleged that Defendant Wikoff deprived plaintiff of
13 procedural due process when he approved Defendants Zavala and
14 Hedgpeth's transferring of plaintiff to the C Facility without
15 providing written notice prior to the transfer, and failure to
16 hold a classification hearing and/or allow plaintiff to appear before
17 a classification committee regarding transfer.

18 28. It is alleged that on 7/16/04 Defendant Grannis as Superv-
19 ising Official responded to plaintiff Grievance Appeal at the Third
20 Level Review and determined Defendants Zavala and Hedgpeth's trans-
21 fer of plaintiff to C Facility was not in reprisal for the lawsuit
22 plaintiff filed against Defendant Williams.

23 29. It is alleged that plaintiff's Grievance Appeal put Defen-
24 dant Grannis on notice of the violation of plaintiff's rights and
25 her failure not to do anything to fix the situation, approved De-
26 fendants Zavala and Hedgpeth's transfer of plaintiff without prior
27 written notice, or hold a classification hearing regarding the

1 transfer deprived plaintiff of due process.

2 30. It is alleged that defendant Williams was not the only
3 mental health staff assigned to B Facility when plaintiff was tran-
4 sferred to the C Facility.

5 31. It is alleged that when plaintiff was at the B Facility he
6 was also on the case load of a psychiatrist who treated inmates at
7 the B Facility.

8 32. It is alleged that the defendants should not have transferred
9 plaintiff because he could have been treated at the B Facility by
10 his psychiatrist and/or assigned to the case load of another psy-
11 chologist other than Defendant Williams.

12 33. It is alleged that Defendants **Scribner,**
13 Wikoff, Traynham and Winn conspired with Defendants Williams,
14 Zavala and Hedgpeth for the purpose of retaliating against plaintiff
15 for exercising his constitutional Right to file a lawsuit and
16 the retaliatory action did not advance legitimate penological
17 goals, such as preserving institutional order and discipline.

18 FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

19 (For First Amendment Violation Against All Defendant)

20 34. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1.
21 through 33, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein.

22 35. Plaintiff has been deprived of the minimal civilized measures
23 of life necessities because defendants retaliated against him for
24 exercising his constitutional Right to file a lawsuit and the re-
25 taliatory action did not advance legitimate penological goals, such
26 as perserving institutional discipline, and the prison officials
27 actions chilled plaintiff's First Amendment rights.



1 36. Plaintiff has suffered sever humiliation, depression, and
2 emotional distress by reason of the deprivation of his civil rights
3 in an amount subject to proof at trial, but estimated to be in
4 excess of \$ 10.000.

5 SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

6 (For Fourteenth Amendment Due Process Violation Against All
7 Defendants)

8 37. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1,
9 through 33, and paragraphs 35, through 36, as though fully set
10 forth herein.

11 38. Defendants have deprived plaintiff procedural due process
12 when they failed to give prior written notice of involuntary tran-
13 sfer, failed to hold classification hearing as required before
14 transferring plaintiff;

15 39. Plaintiff has suffered damages by reason of prison officials
16 due process violation, including but limited to humiliation, fear,
17 depression, and emotional distress. Plaintiff damages are subject
18 to proof at trial, but estimate to be in excess of \$ 10. 000.

19 THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

20 (For § 1985(3) Conspiracy to Deprive a Person of Equal Protection
21 of Law, And the First Amendment Right to be Free from Prison
22 Officials Retaliation)

23 40. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference ~~each~~ and every
24 allegation contained in paragraphs 1, though 33, paragraphs 35,
25 through 36, inclusive, and paragraphs 38 through 39, as though
26 fully set forth herein.

27 //

1 41. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon all-
 2 eges, that defendants conspired between and among themselves to
 3 deprive plaintiff of his due process rights, and ~~retaliate~~ his
 4 constitutional right to file a lawsuit without being retaliated
 5 against. Defendants actions and inactions were not related to
 6 legitimate penological purpose and has ~~harm~~ the psychological
 7 safety...of plaintiff.

8 42. Plaintiff has suffered damage as a result of the deprivat-
 9 ion of his civil rights and the conspiracy engaged in by estimated
 10 to be in excess of \$ 10.000.

11 Wherefore, plaintiff prays for relief as follows:

12 1. For declaratory relief that the denial of due process and
 13 the retaliation by the prison officials violates the First and
 14 Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution;

15 2. For economical damage for deprivation of plaintiff's consti-
 16 tutional rights in an amount subject to proof at trial, BUT esti-
 17 mated to be in excess of \$ 10.000.

18 3. For punitive damages;

19 4. For attorney's fees and costs;

20 5. For such other and further relief as the court deem just
 21 and proper.

22 DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

23 Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

24 Dated: 10/29/07

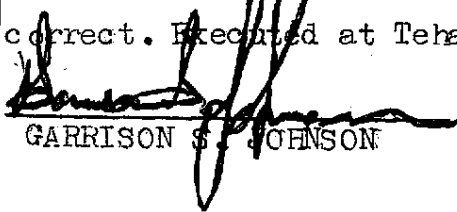
25 ~~XXXXXX~~

GARRISON S. JOHNSON

26 VERIFICATION

27 I have read the foregoing complaint and hereby verify that the

1 matter alleged therein are true, except as to matters alleged on
2 information and belief, and, as to those, I believe them to be true.
3 I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and
4 correct. Executed at Tehachapi, California on Oct 23, 2007.

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6 GARRISON S. JOHNSON
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